



# City of Tempe

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MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN'S INFORMATION MEETING      5:00-6:45 pm, February 20, 2002  
Development Services Conference Room

## **PRESENTERS:**

Roger Millar, Otak	Fred Brittingham, COT
Bonnie Richardson, COT	Arlene Palisoc, COT
Ryan Levesque, COT	

## **ATTENDANCE:**

21 + 2 additional City of Tempe Staff

### **• INTRODUCTION**

- Roger Millar introduced and explained the past year's events which include Phase 1 – Code Audit (February 2001 to August 2001) and Phase 2 – Document Rewrite (September 2001 to present). The "Next Steps" were presented to the public which gave insights as to how the public will be involved in the review process before the document is adopted by the City Council. After the presentation, members of the audience were allowed to ask questions or comment to the presenter.
- Concerns/issues brought up by the audience:
  - Some audience members questioned the members and the process selection of the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Some did not feel enough neighborhood people in the Citizen's Advisory Committee were represented and felt a better mix of people on the committee was needed; more "lay" people, not just developers or people with money. Staff responded by agreeing to add a few more neighborhood representatives. A list of volunteers from the audience interested in joining the Citizen's Advisory Committee was created (7 volunteers at the end of the meeting).
  - There was a strong desire by some of the residents to be included more in the preliminary review of the Draft Regulation which is currently reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee, Staff Review Committee, and citizens. Since this is a community document, staff explained there were a number of chances the public will be able to review the document and make comments/suggestions before the document is adopted by Council.
  - Concerns were raised about overlay districts. Roger Millar explained that the Pedestrian Overlay District is the only new overlay district proposed for the ordinance at this time.

- A suggestion was made to vote on the ordinance, as what is done with General Plan 2020. Staff indicated that the ordinance implements the General Plan and is not subject to a public vote. Staff reiterated that the public will have the opportunity to have a say in the document before it is implemented.
- Web site: It was difficult for some to find the web site regarding the zoning ordinance rewrite process. Many people were not aware the site existed. The site needs to be more accessible.
- Staff needs to look at future growth (such as referring to the Federal Transportation Study) and plan for growth. For example, is light rail adequate enough to handle the growth?
- How will storm drain issues be addressed, especially since it appears Tempe is growing in an "up" direction?
- What happened to the Strategic Plan the city and the neighborhoods have been working on since 1997? Some members feel that work has been left out of the rewrite process.
- The audience wanted to see Module 1 (Residential/Commercial) of the Preliminary Draft of Regulations. Staff informed them that the Modules are a draft. Currently, the committees are just reviewing/drafting the language of the document before it goes out to the public (for example, the committees are making sure parts of the language is legal with the attorney members).
- Existing Ordinance: is there a problem? The presentation at the beginning did not indicate there's a problem with the current regulations, so why make changes? Staff explained the history and methodology about how and why the rewrite is needed.
- It appears the basic goal is to increase density.
- Staff seemed to show "cutting edge principles", yet the rewrite process is not cutting edge.
- Allowing Mixed Uses – There's a need to avoid proposals of mixed use, but then allowing just one use to dominate.
- Meeting Adjourned @ 6:45. A video tape of the meeting can be obtained by the City of Tempe's Media Services.